

## WHAT IS CLAIMED:

1. A method for verifying prescriptions, the method comprising the steps of:  
receiving, via a host system communicating with the internet, prescription information authorized by a health care provider from a computer system, the prescription information including a prescribed drug, and a dosage level for the prescribed drug, a unique health care provider code identifying the health care provider, and a patient code uniquely identifying the patient;  
generating a unique identification code, via the host system, identifying the prescription information;  
storing the prescription information including the unique identification code identifying the prescription information;  
transmitting prescription information and the unique identification code to the computer from which the prescription information was received;  
receiving, via the host system, the unique identification code from a computer system associated with a pharmacy; and  
transmitting, via the host system, retrieval information identified by the unique identification code to the computer system associated with the pharmacy, the retrieval information including the unique health care

provider code identifying the health care provider, the patient code uniquely identifying the patient, and the prescription information identifying the prescribed drug and dosage level.

2. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of receiving, by the host system, a confirmation code to indicate that the prescription identified by the prescription information has been filled by computer system associated with the pharmacy.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein in the step of transmitting prescription information and the unique identification code to the computer system from which the prescription information was received, a printed prescription is produced having the unique identification code.
4. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of outputting a report to a computer associated with a user other than a health care provider or a pharmacy.
5. The method of claim 4, wherein the user is associated with a governmental entity.

6. The method of claim 4, wherein the user is associated with an insurance company.
7. The method of claim 4, wherein the report is summarized by the name of the prescribing health care provider.
8. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of outputting a patient prescription history which includes previous patient prescriptions associated by at least one of a patient code, a health care provider code, and a pharmacy code.
9. A method for verifying prescriptions, the method comprising the steps of:  
receiving, via a host system communicating with the internet, prescription information authorized by a health care provider from a computer system, the prescription information including a prescribed drug, and a dosage level for the prescribed drug, a unique health care provider code identifying the health care provider, and a patient code uniquely identifying the patient;  
generating a unique identification code, via the host system, identifying the prescription information;

storing the prescription information including the unique identification code  
identifying the prescription information;  
transmitting prescription information and the unique identification code to the  
computer from which the prescription information was received;  
receiving, via the host system, the unique identification code from a computer  
system associated with a pharmacy; and  
transmitting, via the host system, retrieval information identified by the unique  
identification code to the computer system associated with the  
pharmacy, the retrieval information including the prescription  
information identifying the prescribed drug and dosage level.

10. The method of claim 9 further comprising the step of receiving, by the host system, a confirmation code to indicate that the prescription identified by the prescription information has been filled by computer system associated with the pharmacy.

11. The method of claim 9, wherein in the step of transmitting prescription information and the unique identification code to the computer system from which

the prescription information was received, a printed prescription is produced having the unique identification code.

12. The method of claim 9, further comprising the step of outputting a report to a computer associated with a user other than a health care provider or a pharmacy.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein the user is associated with a governmental entity.

14. The method of claim 12, wherein the user is associated with an insurance company.

15. The method of claim 12, wherein the report is summarized by the name of the prescribing health care provider.

16. The method of claim 9, further comprising the step of outputting a patient prescription history which includes previous patient prescriptions associated by at least one of a patient code, a health care provider code, and a pharmacy code.

17. A method for verifying prescriptions, the method comprising the steps of:
- receiving, via a host system communicating with the internet, prescription information authorized by a health care provider from a computer system, the prescription information including a prescribed drug, and a dosage level for the prescribed drug, a unique health care provider code identifying the health care provider, and a patient code uniquely identifying the patient;
- generating a unique identification code, via the host system, identifying the prescription information;
- storing the prescription information including the unique identification code identifying the prescription information;
- transmitting prescription information and the unique identification code to the computer from which the prescription information was received;
- receiving, via the host system, the unique identification code from a computer system associated with a pharmacy; and
- transmitting, via the host system, retrieval information identified by the unique identification code to the computer system associated with the pharmacy, the retrieval information including an identification of the prescribing health care provider, an identification of the patient, and the

prescription information identifying the prescribed drug and dosage level.

18. The method of claim 17 further comprising the step of receiving, by the host system, a confirmation code to indicate that the prescription identified by the prescription information has been filled by computer system associated with the pharmacy.

19. The method of claim 17, wherein in the step of transmitting prescription information and the unique identification code to the computer system from which the prescription information was received, a printed prescription is produced having the unique identification code.

20. The method of claim 17, further comprising the step of outputting a report to a computer associated with a user other than a health care provider or a pharmacy.

21. The method of claim 20, wherein the user is associated with a governmental entity.

22. The method of claim 20, wherein the user is associated with an insurance company.

23. The method of claim 20, wherein the report is summarized by the name of the prescribing health care provider.

24. The method of claim 17, further comprising the step of outputting a patient prescription history which includes previous patient prescriptions associated by at least one of a patient code, a health care provider code, and a pharmacy code.